Review of the Electricity Act, 2003

2231. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have reviewed/are reviewing the Electricity Act, 2003;

(b) if so, the details thereof, including the present status and the proposed period of completion of the process;

(c) whether there is any delay in completing the review;

(d) if so, whether the competent authority had represented to retain the Kerala State Electricity Board as a public sector utility;

(e) if so, whether above request would be acceded to; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (c) After carrying out a review of the Electricity Act, 2003, the Act has been recently amended by enactment of the Electricity (Amendment) Act, 2007 which has come into force from 15th June, 2007.

(d) to (f) After coming into force of the Electricity Act, 2003, initially the Government of Kerala had requested the Central Government for agreeing to continuation of the Kerala State Electricity Board (KSEB) as the State Transmission Utility (STU) and licensee under section 172(a) of the Act and the same was agreed to for specific periods. Thereafter, through the State Government requested for continuance of the State Electricity Boards as such, subsequently, while informing of the steps being taken by it to reorganize the KSEB, the State Government has been seeking more time for continuation of KSEB as the STU and licensee which has been agreed to by the Central Government for specific periods under the provisions of section 172(a) of the Act.

Power generation from Tehri dam

2232. SHRI DEVDAS APTE: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is not enough water in the Tehri dam reservoir to generate power;

(b) if so, the reasons for shortage of water in the reservoir; and

(c) the steps proposed to generate full capacity power from the Tehri dam?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Tehri Hydro Development Corporation Ltd. (THDC) has informed that there is no shortage of water in the Tehri Reservoir to generate power.

The Tehri Dam Project, being a high rock fill dam with large storage reservoir and as per design and technical requirements, it is to be gradually filled in specified controlled manner during its initial filling. The full reservoir filling of Tehri Project is expected to be attained in a period of three years. The first stage filling upto EL-785.25m (45 m above dead storage level of EL-740.0 m) was accomplished